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SECTION 1 OF 2

DATE 6 OCTOBER 1972
INDEX NO
FILM NO
TO CHIEF, WESTERN HEMISPHERE DIV
INFO NONE
FROM CHIEF OF STATION, SANTIAGO
SUBJECT O PROGRESS REPORT (1 JULY - 30 SEPT 1972)
ACTION NONE
REF NONE

1. PERHAPS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD WAS THE COLLAPSE OF CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN REPS OF THE PDC AND NEGOTIATORS ON BEHALF OF THE U.P. OVER THE THREE AREAS BILL. EVER SINCE PDC PRESIDENT RENAN FUENTEALBA PRECIPITOUSLY INITIATED CONVERSATIONS WITH THE GOVT TO SEEK A COMPROMISE SOLUTION TO THE IMPASSE OVER THE BILL, THERE HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLE DISSATISFACTION WITHIN THE PDC AND OPEN CRITICISM OF THE PARTY LEADERSHIP BY ITS MEMBERSHIP. WHEN THE CONVERSATIONS DID NOT PRODUCE ANY TANGIBLE RESULTS BY THE EARLY JULY DEADLINE, FUENTEALBA DECIDED TO BREAK OFF FURTHER DISCUSSIONS. SINCE THIS PERIOD, AND PARTICULARLY WITH THE FORMATION OF THE OPPOSITION PARTIES CONFEDERATION (CODE), THE PDC LEADERSHIP HAS RENEWED ITS AGGRESSIVE POSTURE TOWARD THE U.P. GOVT. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE PDC WILL REMAIN IN A COMBATIVE OPPOSITION ROLE TOWARD THE ALLENDE REGIME, AT LEAST THROUGH THE MARCH 1973 ELECTIONS WHEN NEW POLITICAL ASSESSMENTS WILL BE MADE.

2. THE COQUIMBO BY-ELECTION CAMPAIGN AND SUBSEQUENT VICTORY ON 16 JULY FOR THE PCCH CANDIDATE AMANDA ALTAMIRANO MARKED A LOW POINT IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES.

6 OCT 72

PAGE 2 ~~SECRET~~

OPPOSITION POLITICAL LEADERS REALIZED THAT PIR CANDIDATE ORLANDO POBLETE WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE ABLE TO OVERCOME THE WIDE LEAD FOR THE U.P. CANDIDATE. HOWEVER, THEY WERE DISAPPOINTED THAT POBLETE DID NOT COME CLOSER THAN THE 8,000 VOTE DEFEAT. THE PDC, LIKE OTHER OPPOSITION PARTIES, WAS CRITICAL OF THE CAMPAIGN PERFORMANCE OF THE OTHER PARTIES, ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE CAMPAIGN HAD BEEN BADLY MANAGED AND THAT THE OPPOSITION PARTIES HAD ON OCCASION WORKED AT CROSS-PURPOSES IN THEIR EFFORT TO SUPPORT POBLETE. AT THIS POINT THERE WAS EVEN SKEPTICISM AS TO WHETHER THE OPPOSITION COULD EFFECTIVELY WORK ON A CONFEDERATED BASIS FOR THE MARCH ELECTIONS.

3. IN EARLY JULY THE OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES HAD REGISTERED THEIR RESPECTIVE FEDERATIONS AND EXPRESSED THEIR INTENT TO FORM A UNITED OPPOSITION CONFEDERATION FOR THE MARCH 1973 CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS. ACCORD WAS INITIALLY HAMPERED BY FRICTIONS GENERATED AMONG THE OPPOSITION PARTIES, PARTICULARLY THE PDC AND PN, OVER THE ALLOCATION OF SENATE AND DEPUTY CANDIDATE SLOTS. THIS DEBATE NOW APPEARS RESOLVED AND THE CONFEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC PARTIES (CODE) HAS DURING THE PAST MONTH STRENGTHENED ITS WORKING RELATIONSHIP. FOR EXAMPLE, THE ISSUANCE OF DECLARATIONS IN THE NAME OF CODE, RATHER THAN BY INDIVIDUAL PARTIES, IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY FREQUENT. MOREOVER, THE OPPOSITION PROTEST MARCH, NOW SCHEDULED FOR 10 OCTOBER, IS BEING SPONSORED BY CODE, WHEREAS THE ORIGINAL MARCH WAS CALLED BY THE PDC.

4

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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PAGE 4 ~~SECRET~~

8

8A. FOLLOWING THE SUCCESSFUL PDC SHOWING IN THE CUT ELECTIONS, THE PARTY HAS BEEN DEVOTING GREATER ATTENTION TO INCREASING PARTY INFLUENCE AMONG THIS GROUP. THIS EFFORT IS BEING DIRECTED PRIMARILY BY PARTY VICE-PRESIDENT OSVALDO OLGUIN. ACCORDING TO ~~REDACTED~~ PARTY LEADERS PLAN TO HOLD SEVERAL LABOR CONGRESSES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO DEVELOP PROGRAMS AIMED AT ATTRACTING THIS SECTOR. SINCE PDC MEMBERS DOMINATE THE NEWLY ELECTED CUT OFFICERS FOR SANTIAGO PROVINCE, THEY HAVE EFFECTIVELY BEEN HOLDING

5

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PROVINCIAL MEETINGS TO DEBATE CERTAIN GOVT PROGRAMS AND POLICIES. LATELY THERE HAVE BEEN DECLARATIONS ISSUED BY THE SANTIAGO PROVINCE CUT OFFICERS WHICH ARE AT VARIANCE WITH POSTURES ADOPTED BY THE COMMUNIST AND SOCIALIST-DOMINATED NATIONAL LEADERSHIP.

9. [REDACTED]

10. ON 28 SEPTEMBER ANOTHER ROUND OF ELECTIONS WERE HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHILE TO SELECT VICE-RECTORS FOR THE FOUR SANTIAGO AND THE NINE PROVINCIAL CAMPUSES, PLUS SELECTION OF DEANS OF FACILITIES AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO CAMPUS COUNCILS (SEE SANTIAGO [REDACTED] FOR DETAILS). ALTHOUGH VOTER ABSENTEEISM RAN AS HIGH AS FORTY-FIVE PERSENT, THE ELECTION RETURNS SHOWED THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY CASTING AN ESTIMATED FIFTY-FIVE PERCENT OF ITS VOTE FOR RECTOR BOENINGER AND THE FRENTE UNIVERSITARIO. [REDACTED]

11. THE STATION CONTINUES TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE PDC FOR ITS MEDIA ACTIVITIES. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ARE THE

Page (s) 6-8

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